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NPIC/TSSG/DED-1615-69

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Photographic Interpretation Center

SUBJECT : Proposed Contract with [redacted]  
Company for Field Work to Establish a Ground Truth  
Data Bank at a Cost of [redacted]

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1. This memorandum requests approval for the commitment of funds for a contract. The specific request is stated in Paragraph 7.

2. A task team has been established within the NPIC to conduct an in-house study in Precise Measurement. The intent of this study is to identify the possible sources of error in the mensuration process and to develop procedures that will eliminate or reduce those errors that affect mensuration results. In order to identify and isolate the error sources, investigations will be made into: stereoscopic and monoscopic measurement instruments, the in-house computer data reduction programs mathematical rigor, and the relationship between image quality and mensuration capability. To provide a standard for the operational imagery that will be used in many of the tests for this study, a ground truth data bank has been proposed. The in-house task team will select operational imagery that covers representative targets in both foreign and domestic areas and they have requested contractor support in obtaining domestic field data. The contractor will visit the domestic sites selected and make the horizontal and vertical measurements required to provide the ground truth for the data bank. If the error sources and accuracies of instruments, operators, computer programs, and image quality are to be properly assessed; the true reliability and accuracy of ground dimensions on the test imagery must be known. It is anticipated that the measurements produced under this contract will fully satisfy the ground truth requirements for the in-house study of Precise Measurement.

3. The contractor will require approximately three months to produce his portion of the Ground Truth Data Bank. It is intended that they will spend one week at NPIC with the in-house task team laying out the requirements for the domestic sites. The field work to obtain the ground measurements will be covered by four separate trips each covering several sites during a two to three week period. Several weeks will be required to prepare the final report for the contract. The items to be delivered under this contract are: a final report, annotated aerial imagery, ground photos of targets, and vertical and horizontal measurements accompanied by detailed sketches and descriptions.

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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Approved For Release 2003/12/19 : CIA-RDP78B05171A000800070100-4

SUBJECT: Proposed Contract with Automatic Operation of [REDACTED]  
for Field Work to Establish a Ground Truth Data Bank at a Cost  
[REDACTED]

This project is not related to any preceding work. There is very little technical risk involved in the scheduled program.

4. [REDACTED] was selected as a sole source for this contract due to: their security clearances, their familiarization with NPIC operations, their expertise and experience in mensuration, their capability to handle field control work, and their past performance on NPIC contracts.

5. It is anticipated that there will be a follow-on action in the form of a project for Basic Research in Precise Measurement sponsored by TSSG/DED in FY-70. It is anticipated that the Ground Truth Data Bank and data from the in-house Precise Measurement Study will provide valuable guidelines and test material for the forthcoming project. It is estimated that the basic research program will cover a three-year period and cost a total of approximately [REDACTED] to be financed over 3 years at approximately [REDACTED] per year.

6. The agency association with this project is classified Confidential but the field work and title will be Unclassified. Security arrangements will have to be made to get the contractor personnel on certain military sites.

7. It is requested that approval be granted to negotiate with the [REDACTED] for a contract to undertake the field work to establish a Ground Truth Data Bank at a Cost not to exceed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Chief, Technical Services & Support Group,  
NPIC

Attachments: (3)

1. [REDACTED] Proposal
2. Work Statement
3. Procurement Form

APPROVAL:

ARTHUR C. LUNDHAL  
Director  
National Photographic Interpretation Center

Date

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**SUBJECT:** Proposed Contract with [REDACTED]  
for Field Work to Establish a Ground Truth Data Bank at a Cost  
[REDACTED]

**Distribution:**

Orig - NPIC/TSSG/SCAPS (After approval)

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NPIC/TSSG/DED/R&DB-II, [REDACTED] (12 May 69)

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